

Otterbein University Alumni News
Department of Health & Sport Sciences Fall 2016**Dr. Rocks Inducted into OATA Hall of Fame**

Congratulations to Dr. Joan Rocks who was one of three inductees into the 2016 Ohio Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame. This is a huge accomplishment and honor that recognizes her devotion to the profession and dedication to our students. Those of you who know Dr. Rocks will also know that she is very deserving of this award. A big thank you to all of our alumni who attended the OATA banquet in support of Dr. Rocks. Read more: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/rocks-inducted-into-oata-hall-of-fame>

PHOTO COURTESY OF OATA

**The Biomechanics Lab** BY DR. SHELLEY PAYNE

With the opening of the Center for Health and Sport Sciences, we were also excited to open the Biomechanics Institute. The Biomechanics Institute is a research lab located in the basement of the CHSS that supports the research endeavors of our faculty and students. Currently the lab houses a state of the art Woodway treadmill and technology to support videotaping of our running and walking subjects. Already the Biomechanics Institute has successfully led to the completion of two research projects involving runners with knee pain. The subjects participating in the research were given visual feedback using our Apple TV system to make corrections to their running gait. We have also used the lab to examine the running cadence of different running populations. The lab has been busy this summer as community members who are training for the Columbus Marathon and Half-Marathon have been tested and will be tracking their training runs on our new "app"! We are so excited by the possibilities that this lab has opened for our faculty and our students to further their research and teaching and learning endeavors! Read more: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/assistant-professor-gives-long-distance-runners-a-tune-up-through-gait-retraining>

PHOTO
COURTESY OF
BOBBY MIZIA

**Message from the Chair**

What a year. As a very dynamic group, from students to faculty to staff to alumni and all members of our HSS family, we experienced many firsts! Top among those firsts was moving into our new Center of Health and Sport Sciences. Our new space has allowed us to soar even higher and to provide our students with the ideal learning experience. Not only do we have space to teach more effectively, we also have the Biomechanics Institute, research space, computer lab, small kitchen and offices with very bright windows. Our new area has elevated the enthusiasm of all beyond measure. This building has enhanced the primary philosophy of our department and that is developing positive life-long learning relationships with our students. These relationships are so crucial and serve as the foundation to student learning success.

As you will read throughout this latest version of our alumni newsletter, not only are YOU integral to the success of our current students, but you help us teach our current students, you advise us all on the issues and professional standards needed for our current graduates and your financial support has provided so many opportunities for our students to experience professional conferences, provide us with necessary teaching tools and opening your own doors for our students to have quality internship experiences. For all of that, I personally could not be more proud to be a part of this family and I cannot thank you all enough for helping us become the model department on campus!!

All the best,
Joan

Lock In Your Love

BY PATTI WILSON

A new tradition was started by students in Patti Wilson's DYAD class this past year to increase student philanthropy. Otterbein students in her class asked other students to give to support the Annual Fund through Lock in Your Love for Otterbein campaign. Students were encouraged to give, even if it was just \$1. Graduating seniors who contributed \$20.16 received a Philanthropy cord to wear at graduation. The main goals of the campaign were to raise student awareness of the Annual Fund and to help students see how easy it is to begin a life long legacy of philanthropy. The students were quite successful at achieving both. Read More: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/lock-in-your-love-surpasses-goals-exceeds-100-student-donors>

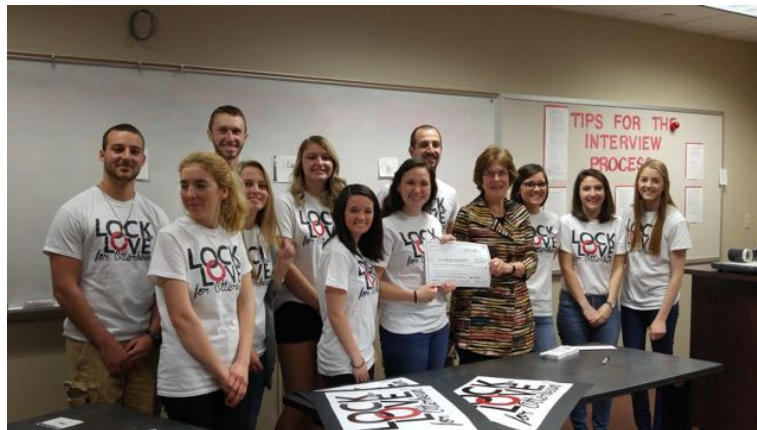


PHOTO COURTESY OF OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

Alumni Support

BY NICK WOOD DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



In addition to the generous support of time donated each year, we encourage you to learn more about program needs and invite you to consider ways in which you might support the Department of Health & Sport Sciences through a gift. With our recent expansion into the newly renovated Center of Health & Sport Sciences, formerly the Davis Annex dormitory, opportunities exist for alumni to support facilities as well as program funds that support scholarship, department research, student travel to conferences and more. For more information on how you can support the Department of Health & Sport Sciences with a gift, please contact the Development Office at 614-823-1950 or email Nick Wood, Director of Development at nwood@otterbein.edu.

Master of Science in Allied Health Program Changes

BY DR. PAUL LONGENECKER

With Fall semester 2016 upon us, the MSAH program begins its fifth year. To date, we have graduated 28 students with 71% of those seeking a new job being successful (based on our records). Fall semester brings a few new changes to the program. To start with Dr. Rocks has stepped down as the Program Director (still HSS Department Chair) and Dr. Paul Longenecker has assumed the Program Director role. A second change is the names of the tracks within the MSAH program. The Health and Wellness track is now Exercise and Health Sciences and Allied Healthcare Administration is Healthcare Administration. The Post-Licensure Athletic Training track has been put on hold since national standards have changed and a Masters of Athletic Training will be the entry level for the profession. Dr. Rocks will be working on making this curricular change. Also, this year we received a Graduate Assistant position to help with awareness and program development.

We continue to work on growing our enrollment and public awareness of the degree. To assist in this effort, we will be forming a MSAH Alumni Advisory Group and MSAH Community Advisory Group. Through these efforts, we are striving to continue to provide opportunities for students to maximize the MSAH experience. If interested in being involved in one of the advisory groups or work with MSAH students, let Dr. Longenecker know of your interest. Also, please keep us informed of your accomplishments.

Athletic Training Students Make Otterbein History

Congratulations goes to team OCATS for taking 1st place at the annual Ohio Athletic Trainers Association Quiz Bowl. This is the first time in the history of Otterbein that we have won the Ohio Quiz Bowl! In March the team traveled to Chicago for competition in the Regional Great Lakes Athletic Trainers Quiz bowl competition where they also took 1st place. This advanced them to the National Athletic Trainers Association for the final round of the Quiz Bowl in June where they finished 4th in the nation. The team was comprised of Lauren Cornwell, Nathan Garewrecki, Jason Combs, and alternate Mitch Geddis. Read more: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/athletic-training-students-finish-fourth-in-national-quiz-bowl>



PHOTO COURTESY OF OATA

Promotions, & New Faculty & Departures

Congratulations to Otterbein alumni **Ally Smith, MS**, (right) who has accepted the position of Assistant Athletic Trainer replacing Chrysten Regelski who moves on to Marietta College.

Congrats to **Dr. Joan Rocks** on her promotion to Professor and **Dr. Shelley Payne** and **Dr. Rob Braun** on their promotion to Associate Professor with tenure.

Dr. Paul Longenecker is now the Graduate Program Director for the Master of Science in Allied Health.

Dr. Greg Sullivan has departed to take a position as Associate Professor and Director of Professional Masters of Sport Administration Program in the College of Business at Ohio University. We wish him the best!



PHOTO COURTESY OF ED SYGUDA

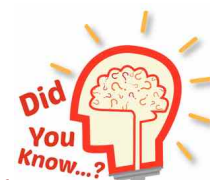
Homecoming

Mark your calendar for Homecoming 2016 on Sept. 30-Oct. 1 for another family-friendly event featuring the Grove Festival with Liberty Mutual Bandstand, parade, football game, and much more!



Interested Public Health Education?

Did you know that Otterbein University now offers a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Health Education? Please contact **Dr. Rob Braun** if you would like more information: 614.823.3535 or rbraun@otterbein.edu



Grant Seredick Awarded National Scholarship

Grant Seredick was recently chosen as the undergraduate student winner of Ohio Society Of Public Health Educators's (SOPHE) Karen H. Evans Memorial Scholarship. This national award was developed to recognize and support community and public health education students who exemplify academic excellence, leadership and community service. Seredick is a senior majoring in Public Health Education. Read more: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/student-recognized-for-public-health-outreach>

Health Promotion & Fitness is now Exercise Science & Health Promotion

Beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, incoming first year students will be majoring in Exercise Science and Health Promotion rather than the familiar Health Promotion and Fitness. Although classes within the major will not change, the title of the major makes it more recognizable for the prospective student/person interested in Otterbein University. It also allows the emphasis on health promotion as a vital part of the major to be noted while representing the course of study as science based. Since more majors are applying to graduate schools, the title of Exercise Science and Health Promotion, represents the course of study more so than Health Promotion and Fitness. This eases acceptance into graduate programs of study.



Social Media Links:

Please join us on social media for all the latest and greatest news from HSS and Otterbein!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HealthyCardinal/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/otterbeinhss/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HSSOtterbein>

Sport Management Plans Fundraising Events

Dr. Walter's event management class was in high gear this past spring planning numerous events around campus and throughout the community to raise funds for several worthy organizations. They hosted a 5K for K9 Cancer and raised over \$40,000 with the proceeds going to MedVet cancer research. They also hosted a Cardy Comedy Night to benefit The Autism Society of Central Ohio and a Fun Night at Blendon Middle School. Read More: <http://www.otterbein.edu/Spotlights/event-planning-raises-funds-and-organizes-5k-for-k-9-cancer-run-walk>



Westerville Hunger Heros BY PATTI WILSON

Patti Wilson's FYS class and community partner Best of Both Worlds presented the proceeds of their service learning project, Westerville Hunger Hero's 5K and Fun Run, to Share Bac A Pac and W.A.R.M. The Share Bac A Pac program, founded by Otterbein graduate Sherry Williamson and her daughter Brandy Wampler, recently partnered with W.A.R.M. a 501(C)3 organization that is focused on supporting community outreach and helping people become self-sufficient. Pictured are the students, Otterbein faculty, Patti Wilson, Sherry Williamson and Julie Smith from Share Bac A Pac and Cheryl Wooten, Director of W.A.R.M.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNETTE BOOSE

Senior HPF Interns Go "All Out!" BY DR. KIM FISCHER

This past spring, there were 15 Health Promotion and Fitness (HPF) majors fulfilling their senior internships. These placements were diverse in their settings, often secured as a result of a relationship with an Otterbein HPF alum, frequently outside of the Columbus area, and resulted in jobs post-graduation in numerous instances.

Although all fifteen cannot be listed here, several can be mentioned. Through the help of Chris Latimer ('15), Aaron Thompson served his 15-week internship in strength and conditioning at Florida Atlantic University. Since completion, he is actively seeking a graduate assistant position through his newly established contacts. Ashley Didingier is currently employed where she interned, the Knox County Health Department. Bobby Moody and Natasha Natraj connected with Kristin (Williams) Espinoza ('10) at Emblem Health in New York City to secure an internship in the Big Apple. As a result of their efforts this past spring, both are currently employed. Bobby is a health and fitness professional at MetLife while Natasha is at NBC Universal. Brandon Strausser pursued an internship at SPIRE Performance Center in northern Ohio where he worked with a Dancing With the Stars performer as well as Olympic hopefuls. As a result of great timing, Otterbein resident advisor experience, and his 800 hours of experience at SPIRE, he is now employed full-time there.

A huge CONGRATULATIONS to all who have completed their senior internships AND an even bigger THANK YOU to all Otterbein HPF alum who were there to support them!

Keep in Touch

We love our HSS Alumni! Please email: Annette Boose (aharting@otterbein.edu) and/or Alumni Relations (alumniinfo@otterbein.edu) to share personal updates such as: New Job or Promotion, New Address, New Baby, Marriage, Awards Recieved etc. We want to hear from YOU!

